

Be Merry all, be Merry all, With Holly deck the festive hall, To welcome Merry Christmas.

Miss Rosemary Sartoris, Gen. Grant's Grandchild.



Among the most promising of the fair society buds who made their debuts recently was Miss Rosemary Sartoris, the granddaughter of General Grant and the daughter of Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris, who is known the country over as "Our Nellie."

Miss Rosemary was the youngest of the flock of debutantes. She recently celebrated the seventeenth anniversary of her birth. Mrs. Sartoris believes in introducing young girls into the ways of fashion early in life. Her eldest daughter, Miss Vivian, was brought out at 17.

Miss Rosemary is just out of convent, with charming, half shy ways and a face that is poetic enough to accord with her romantic name, so there is no doubt she will become one of the favorites of Washington society, as she has inherited much of the grace and charm of manner of her mother.

William Will Wed Queen Wilhelmina.

As is usual with young women who have the misfortune to be queens and therefore unable to consult their own desires in many things, Wilhelmina of Holland has been talked of as betrothed to several princes of Europe.

All the guesses were wrong, however, for the youthful queen is to marry his highness Prince William of Wied. The queen, as is generally known, was 18 at her accession in August, and Prince William will be 23 in March.

He was born at Neuwied, the capital of his father's domains, situated in Rhenish Prussia, and is a lieutenant of the Prussian regiment of the corps of the guards, stationed at Potsdam. He belongs to the Evangelical church and the queen to the Reformed. The prince's parents are his serene highness the reigning Prince William, born Aug. 22, 1845, a Prussian general and hereditary member of the house of peers, and her royal highness Princess Marie of Hol-



land, born July 5, 1841, only child of the late Prince Frederic of the Netherlands and Princess Louise of Prussia, sister of Emperor William I.

The prince has a younger brother, Victor, born Dec. 7, 1877, an officer in the Prussian regiment of uhlans, No. 3 of the guards, and two young sisters, Princesses Louise and Elizabeth, respectively 18 and 16 years of age. His aunt is the queen of Roumania (Carmen Sylva), and his paternal grandmother, the Princess Marie of Nassau and the Netherlands, born in 1835. The family is a very wealthy one and is connected with several royal houses.

Alexander Is Great In Trigonometry.

Alexander Bowley is certainly a very clever youngster. Although but 11 years old, he is an adept at trigonometry and, what is more to be wondered at, is practiced



to himself, as he has never been to school. He lives with his parents at Henfield, Sussex, England. His father was able to help him with his studies at first, but the boy acquired knowledge so rapidly that he has become the master of the man and has long since passed beyond the paternal instructor. Before he was put at mathematics he spent his time in deciphering word squares and double acrostics. While he is an expert in figures, he is making equally good headway in other studies. He is rarely at his studies more than four or five hours a day. In his leisure he reads fairy tales and books of adventure and draws pictures, of which occupation he is particularly fond. He is a rollicking, mischievous boy, full of health and spirits, and goes at his play with the same interest that he applies to his studies.

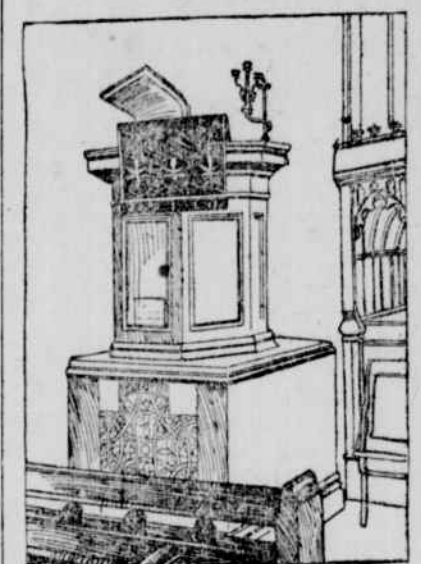
A Rich Pearlfield.

Of the wonderful richness of the newly discovered pearl beds along the coast of New Caledonia Consul Wolff of Noumea says that a little boat of 1 1/2 tons furnished 22 pounds of pearls in 1897. These pearls are of the finest water and are pink, yellow, gray and black. As high as 256 pearls have been found in one oyster shell. The waters have been fished only to a depth of seven feet, owing the lack of divers. A Parisian syndicate, however, capitalized at \$200,000, has obtained a concession covering 130 miles of coast, and, with the latest improved machinery, will fish waters to a depth of 75 feet. At the greatest depths the largest shells are found, and the consul predicts a wonderful increase of the world's wealth in pearls.

Pulpit From Which Wesley Preached.

In nearly all the churches of England will be found relics of the days long gone by. None, however, is of more interest than those in the little church of South Leigh, in Oxfordshire. In fact, there are three relics of considerable importance in that lovely little edifice. Among these is an interesting and exquisite fresco of the fifteenth century which was brought to light a few years ago. It represents the "Judgment of Souls" and is painted on one of the side walls.

While the visitor is naturally attracted to this queer painting he usually is more interested in a little wooden pul-



pit standing at one side of the church near the altar rail. It has an unimportant appearance, and it is not until the visitor has examined the little polished brass plate that he begins to grow enthusiastic. The pulpit is the one from which John Wesley preached his first sermon. The little tablet on one of the panels records this fact.

"Girl Wanted"--A Wail From the Klondike.



"Girl wanted!" is the cry that has come down from the frozen regions of the Klondike. It is said that any laborer can earn \$15 a day in that country, but the miners would welcome young American women much more enthusiastically and pay them much better, for they would give to the girls themselves their wealth and their washing, especially the last, for, though a miner may be able to bend for hours digging in a hole in the ground or washing gold in a pan and not be more than ordinarily tired, yet when he starts to wash out his mud stained jeans immediately his back aches, and he swears off--literally.

However, as will be noticed in the accompanying illustration, somebody must have been thoughtful enough when starting out there to take with him a patent washboard, for it's dollars to doughnuts no miner would ever have thought of making one, or remembered what it looked like had he thought of such a thing, without a woman to jog his memory.



THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

BY CAROLINE WETHERELL






O'er holy Judaea the angels are winging,
"Glad tidings! We herald the birth of a king,
His name shall be mighty," the angels are singing,
"And joy to all ages and peoples shall bring."

On Bethlehem's hill slopes the faint sheep are crying,
The sheepfolds deserted, the flocks all alone;
While down through the valleys the shepherds are hieing
To kneel at the feet of the Christ on his throne.

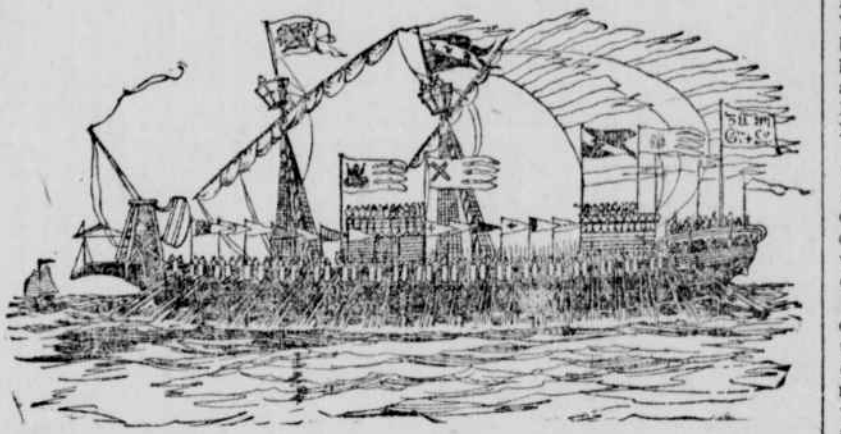
Afar o'er the desert the camels are fleeting,
The Magi with gold and with spices they bring,
And ever above them the star is retreating;
It points to the manger of Bethlehem's King.

In Bethlehem's stable the sleek kine are lowing,
The star, like a censor, doth overhead swing,
The thorns and the cross and the spear all unknowing,
Sweet Mary smiles down on the Christ child, the King.

On Calvary's brow are the three crosses shining,
No Magi adoring, no angels to sing;
But the crowns of this earth are in glory declining
Since thorns crowned the head of Emmanuel the King.



The Galley of Marco Polo.



The story of Marco Polo has long been regarded as one of the most fascinating books of travel and adventure ever written by an explorer. His account of various regions of the earth which were almost and in some cases absolutely unknown to Europe up to his time has been regarded as authoritative ever since.

Some portions of the countries he traversed even to this day remain unexplored by western travelers, and those parts which have been opened to trade and occidental civilization prove that he was a remarkably observing man and described things as he saw them.

In a recent edition of his book is shown a picture of his "great and powerful" galley, and it is an interesting fact that when Christopher Columbus lighted upon what are now known as the West Indies he supposed he had touched the dominion of the great khan, and he was continually on the lookout for the land of Cipango, spoken of by Marco Polo, where there were such "riches of gold and gems and fabulously gorgeous commodities."

A Key of Pure Gold.

There was a sanitarium opened at Huddersfield, England, recently by Sir William Broadbent, the well known physician and fellow of the Royal Society of England.

The event was made the occasion of the ancient ceremony of presenting one with the freedom of a city.

A gold key, emblematic of the honor granted, enclosed in a magnificent box, was given him at a banquet attended by the city fathers and distinguished guests.


The key is 18 carat gold, having the arms of Huddersfield enameled in proper colors on one side of the head, with the crest on the reverse. It is engraved with an inscription stating the occasion of presentation and the recipient's name.

The Khedivial Medal.



England has a way of her own in instilling enthusiasm into those of her troops who have carried the flag to all parts of the world. One of these is to give to the men who have displayed bravery or otherwise distinguished themselves in the campaigns in which they have taken part medals to commemorate the deeds, and there are few soldiers in the British army who do not covet these badges. One of the last campaign medals to be distributed is that known as the khedivial medal, which was awarded to those who took part in the Sudan affair. It is a beautiful specimen of the metal worker's art, circular in shape and an inch and a half in diameter. It is surmounted by a double clasp, on which the words "Hafir" and "Firket" have been inscribed. Embossed on the face of the medal is a stand of English and Egyptian colors, in the center of which is the seal of the khedive. On the back is an inscription bearing the name of the person to whom it is presented.

Forced to Kiss Her.



Bertie: "Why so glum, Harold? Santa Claus forget you?"
Harold: "No, not that; but Miss Forty got under the mistletoe, and just for fun I started for her, thinking she would..."
Bertie: "Well?"
Harold: "She didn't."

STRAY NOTES OF INTEREST.

Practically one-half the coffee produced in the world is imported into the United States for consumption. The consumption per capita is estimated at 11.5 pounds.

The French used the bicycle in 1871, during the siege of Belfort for carrying dispatches. The wheel adopted at that time was, of course, the "ordinary," or high wheel. This was the earliest introduction of the cycle in the army.

Ethiopia has boundless forests but none of them is available to supply the timber for the construction of the Russian railroad through Manchuria. It comes from Oregon, and is shipped across the Pacific to Vladivostok, thence transported by rail to a tributary of the Amur and by water routes to the line of the road.

El Heraldo de Santiago says that there has been a 25 per cent decrease in the criminal record of the United States and that this demonstrates clearly that the majority of the criminals of the United States are in the organization of the army. This kind of reasoning is ingenious, but it is convincing only to those who want to be convinced.

All meat in Manila is eaten fresh killed, since ice fails to preserve fish, flesh or fowl, and game and fowl are always sold at the markets alive.

George Frederick Watts proposes to have an open gallery, like an Italian loggia, built around the churchyard of St. Eloi's, Aldersgate, in London, and to erect in it memorials to "heroes in humble life." He is preparing a monument to Alice Ayers, a young girl who in a fire in 1885 saved the lives of three children, but lost her own.

Mr. Watts, R. A., has undertaken a statue of the late Lord Tennyson. It will be of life size, or even larger, and the artist, who is in his eighties, and whose oil portrait of the poet is in the possession of the nation, approaches this presentation of the late laureate in a new medium with confidence and enthusiasm.

In Japan what we call "after dinner speeches" are made before dinner, thus insuring brevity and furnishing topics for conversation during the meal itself.

Verdischew is a good sized Russian town, which will shortly be sold at auction to the highest bidder, as it owes the government and other creditors \$3,519,332 rubles 63 kopecks, which it is unable to pay.

Dr. Adolf Bredius of The Hague, the famous Rembrandt expert, has offered to present 50,000 guilders (over \$20,000) toward the building of a permanent Rembrandt museum, provided that this can be brought to contain all the works of Rembrandt in the various Dutch collections. It is doubtful, however, whether the Dutch government or the Amsterdam municipality or the Six family will consent to transfer their Rembrandts to a special museum.

In 15 years Russia has sent 624,000 persons to Siberia, fully 100,000 relatives of prisoners having accompanied the exiles of their own free will.

Moritz Frankl, who as a child was exhibited as a mathematical prodigy, recently tried to commit suicide by jumping from a Vienna bridge into the Danube. His power to add figures was failing, and he had learned no other means of earning a living.

Venetian coins of 1570 and 1577, bearing the name of Doge Aloys Mocenigo, have been found in Mashonaland, in the interior of South Africa.

It is said that one English person in 24 has red hair.

Pistols were first used by the British cavalry in the middle of the sixteenth century, the first revolving chambered pistol being invented 200 years later.